

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 EA-09 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-11 NEA-10 NSAE-00

OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

EPA-04 CEQ-01 HEW-06 STR-04 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02

DOT-00 FEAE-00 INT-05 NSF-02 DODE-00 /132 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 0627

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 04594

OES FOR GLASOE, EPA FOR THOMPSON, MILLER

CEQ, HEW, COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE: FLUORCARBONS

REF: (A) LETTER GLASOE-KRAMISH JAN. 29

(B) TELECON GLASOE-WAIT, FEB. 11

(C) ENV(76)8 - CHEMICAL GROUP'S PROPOSAL TO OECD
PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY: MISSION HAS DISCUSSED FLUORCARBON PROGRAM PER REFS (A), (B), (C) IN DETAIL WITH HILLIARD RODERICK AND MARIA IDMAN. BOTH ARE OPTIMISTIC THAT WITH PRESENT RESOURCES AN INTERIM REPORT OF VALUE TO MEMBER-COUNTRY GOVERNMENTS CAN BE DRAFTED BY END 1976 OR EARLY 1977. END SUMMARY

2. MISSION SPENT SEVERAL HOURS WITH MARIA IDMAN IN POINT-BY-POINT DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED OECD FLUORCARBONS PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN ENV(76)8, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS
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OF THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE US IN PAUL GLASOE'S

LETTER OF JAN. 29, AND VERY SPECIFICALLY WITH RESPECT TO METHOD AND RESOURCES FOR IMPLEMENTING PARAS 4 C AND 4 D OF THAT DOCUMENT.

3. PARA 4 C CALLS FOR AN INVESTIGATION BY OECD OF INSTANCES WHERE SUBSTITUTIONS FOR FLUORCARBONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN MEMBER COUNTRIES. THIS INFORMATION IS EXPECTED FROM MEMBER-COUNTRIES WITH ONLY INCIDENTAL TRAVEL.

4. PARA 4 D IS IN TWO PARTS: 4 D(I), WHICH CALLS FOR THE "IDENTIFICATION OF EXISTING PLANNED OR POSSIBLE REGULATORY MEASURES", AND 4 D(II) WHICH INVOLVES ECONOMIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS OF SUCH IDENTIFIED, OR "POSSIBLE" MEASURES. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION OF THE MEANING OF "POSSIBLE" IN THE CONTEXT OF PARA 4D (I), IT WAS AGREED THAT THERE WERE TWO CONNOTATIONS: FIRSTLY, VAGUE IDEAS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES THAT "SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE", LEADING EVENTUALLY TO A FORMAL ACTION: SECONDLY, A SET OF SCENARIOS, OR MODELS, WHERE DIFFERENT IMPACT SITUATION WOULD BE DISPLAYED AGAINST A SPECTRUM OF REGULATORY OPTIONS. THIS THE SECRETARIAT WOULD DO, USING THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES OF THE DIRECTORATE, AIMING AT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRAMEWORK WITH AS MUCH INPUT AS POSSIBLE OF A FACTUAL NATURE DERIVED FROM 4 D(I).

5. BOTH 4 D(I) AND 4 D(II) COULD GO AHEAD IMMEDIATELY UPON APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM BY THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE IN MARCH, WITH A USEFUL SECRETARIAT REPORT BY ABOUT THE END OF THE YEAR. THIS WOULD MEET THE US REQUIREMENT TO FOCUS ON THIS PART OF THE PROGRAM AS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND MANAGEABLE. TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDING, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE OECD'S ABILITY TO FULFILL

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THE TOTAL MANDATE, THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE OFFERED
WITH REFERENCE TO THE REMAINING PARAGRAPHS OF ENV(76)8.

6. PARAS 1 AND 2 PROPOSE DERESTRICTION OF THE ORIGINAL
US-CANADA REPORT ON FLUORCARBONS, WITH THE UNDERSTAND-
ING THAT MEMBER-COUNTRIES WOULD SUPPLEMENT THE STATIS-
TICAL INFORMATION RECEIVED BY JAN. 31, 1976. THE
SECRETARIAT WILL ISSUE THE DERESTRICTED REPORT IN AS
UPDATED A FORM AS FEASIBLE IN TERMS OF INFORMATION
AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PRINTING.

7. INFORMAL CONTACTS ARE ALREADY UNDER WAY BETWEEN
THE OECD SECRETARIAT AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZA-
TIONS IN ORDER TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARA 4 A.
THIS WILL BE SPEEDED UP AND RAPIDLY COMPLETED ONCE THE
MANDATE IS APPROVED. PRELIMINARY INDICATIONS ARE THAT
NO ORGANIZATION OTHER THAN THE OECD IS PREPARING TO
LOOK AT THE ECONOMIC AND OTHER IMPACTS PER PARA 4 D II,
ALTHOUGH THIS IMPRESSION WILL OF COURSE HAVE TO BE SUB-
JECTED TO CAREFUL VERIFICATION.

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8. PARA 4 B ATTACHES HIGH PRIORITY TO THE INVENTORY
OF ONGOING AND PLANNED RESEARCH OF RELEVANCE TO THE
OECD STUDY, IN THE AREAS OF: STRATOSPHERIC CHEMISTRY
AND DYNAMICS; BIOLOGICAL AND NON-BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS
OF CHANGES IN ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION. THIS INVENTORY,
HOWEVER, WILL BE MADE BY THE CHEMICALS GROUP, NOT BY
THE SECRETARIAT, AND THE KEY TO THE WHOLE OF THIS SEC-
TION IS THE US REPORT WHICH IS EXPECTED SHORTLY FOR
SUPPLEMENTING BY OTHER MEMBER-COUNTRY MEMBERS OF
THE CHEMICALS GROUP.

9. SECRETARIAT STAFF RESOURCES REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT THE RELEVANT PARTS OF PARAS 6,7, 8 ABOVE WOULD BE MINIMAL, SO THAT THE MAJOR SECRETARIAT EFFORT COULD BE DEPLOYED TO IMPLEMENTING PARAS 4C AND 4D, IF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGREED TO THIS FAOCOUS ASSUMING THIS TO BE THE CASE, THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT RODERICK'S WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST BY MAKING AVAILABLE AS MUCH OF A VERY TIGHT TRAVEL BUDGET AS MIGHT BE REQUIRED. IN ADDITION, AFTER APPROVAL OF THE MANDATE BY THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO ASK APPROPRIATE US EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN OECD CAPITALS TO CONTACT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES-- INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE OECD CHEMICALS GROUP --RESPONSIBLES FOR REFLECTING ON THE FLUORCARBON PROBLEM IN ORDER TO STIMULATE A HIGHER DEGREE OF CONCERN THAN IS PERHAPS THE CASE AT PRESENT, AND A GREATER WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AS REQUESTED.

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